

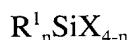
## Amendments to the Claims:

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

Claims 1 - 14. (Cancelled).

15. (New) A composition comprising partly hydrophobic silica particles said partly hydrophobic silica particles having a contact angle  $\theta$  in air for water of less than  $180^\circ$ , a degree of coverage  $\tau$  of the surface of the silica with silylating agent residues, based on the total silica particle surface area, of  $1\% < \tau < 50\%$ , a density of surface silanol groups SiOH ranging between a minimum of 0.9 and a maximum of  $1.7 \text{ SiOH/nm}^2$  particle surface area, and having a carbon content of more than 0% and up to 2.0% by weight, and a methanol number of less than 30, said partly hydrophobic silica prepared by a process comprising silylating silica particles with

I) an organosilane of the formula



where n is 1, 2 or 3

or mixtures of these organosilanes,

$R^1$  being a monovalent, optionally halogenated hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, being identical or different at each occurrence, and being saturated, aromatic, monounsaturated, or polyunsaturated,

X each independently being halogen, a nitrogen radical,  $OR^2$ ,  $OCOR^2$ , or

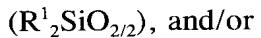
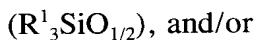
$O(CH_2)_xOR^2$ ,

$R^2$  being hydrogen or a monovalent hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and

x being 1, 2 or 3;

or

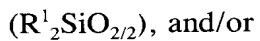
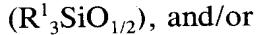
II) an organosiloxane composed of units of the formula



where  $R^1$  is as defined above, or mixtures thereof,

the number of these units in one organosiloxane being at least 2; and I and II being used alone or in any desired mixtures in a total amount of from 0.015 mmol/g to 0.15 mmol/g per 100 m<sup>2</sup>/g of silica BET surface area measured by the BET method in accordance with DIN 66131 and 66132.

16. (New) The composition of claim 15, wherein said silylating is performed with an organosiloxane composed of units of the formula (II)



where  $R^1$  is as defined above, or mixtures thereof,

the number of these units in one organosiloxane being at least 2; II being used in a total amount of from 0.015 mmol/g to 0.15 mmol/g per 100 m<sup>2</sup>/g of silica BET surface area measured by the BET method in accordance with DIN 66131 and 66132.

17. (New) The composition of claim 7, wherein said silylating is performed with an organosilane of the formula



where n is 1, 2, or 3, or a mixture of these organosilanes, where  $R^3$  is a monovalent saturated hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a monovalent or monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radical having 6 to 24 carbon atoms, each  $R^3$  being the same or different,

X each independently being halogen, a nitrogen radical, OR<sup>2</sup>, OCOR<sup>2</sup>, or O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>x</sub>OR<sup>2</sup>,  
R<sup>2</sup> being hydrogen or a monovalent hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and  
x being 1, 2 or 3.

18. (New) The composition of claim 17, wherein said step of silylating is additionally performed with an organosiloxane of the formula (II).

19. (New) The composition of claim 17, wherein each R<sup>3</sup> individually is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, octyl, decyl, dodecyl, hexadecyl, octadecyl, phenyl, biphenyl, napthyl, benzyl, ethylphenyl, tolyl, and xylyl radicals.

20. (New) The composition of claim 15, which is an aqueous dispersion.

21. (New) The composition of claim 15, which is a w/o dispersion.

22. (New) The composition of claim 15, which is an o/w dispersion.

23. (New) The composition of claim 20, wherein a dispersed phase comprises an organic resin.

24. (New) The composition of claim 23, wherein at least one organic resin is selected from the group consisting of polyesters, vinyl ester resins, epoxy resins, polyurethanes, and alkyd resins.

25. (New) The composition of claim 15, which is an aqueous emulsion or dispersion which contains less than 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition of said partly hydrophobic silica particles.

26. (New) The composition of claim 20, wherein a dispersed phase is a polydimethylsiloxane.

27. (New) The composition of claim 26, wherein said polydimethylsiloxane is OH-terminated.

28. (New) The composition of claim 21, which contains no emulsifier other than said partly hydrophobic silica.

29. (New) The composition of claim 15 which further comprises at least one pigment, and is a pulverulent composition suitable for use as a toner or developer.

30. (New) The composition of claim 15, wherein said partly hydrophobic silica has a methanol number less than 20.

31. (New) The composition of claim 15, wherein said partly hydrophobic silica has a carbon content of 0.1 to 0.5 weight percent per each 100 m<sup>2</sup>/g of surface area.